

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 3, the paragraph beginning with “The present invention” insert the following title and paragraph:

-- PRIORITY CLAIM

This is a national stage of PCT application No. PCT/FI2004/000012, filed on January 9, 2004. Priority is claimed on Application No. 20030042, filed in Finland on January 10, 2003.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --.

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 as follows:

The present invention relates to a method ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ for separating web rolls on a conveyor from each other.

Page 1, amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 as follows:

The rolls of a set received from a slitter-winder may stay adhered to each other due to different reasons: the core ends are not flush with the web roll ends, the sheet edges of the rolls are slit uneven leaving them interleaved with each other or slitting has been started too late whereby the core still has some layers unslit. If the rolls adhere to each other, problems may occur at the transition point between the conveyors in the case that the rolls fail to separate. To avoid such complications, full separation of rolls must be checked in a set received from a surface-driven slitter-winder. While checking the separation of rolls in a set may occur at any place along the transfer of the roll set, generally the check is performed through arching the roll set by way of elevating the middle rolls of the roll set upward so much that the roll ends separate from each other leaving a gap therebetween. At this moment, the operator checks visually that all rolls are separated from each other and, if necessary, uses a wedge to force apart any rolls adhering to each other. Although modern slitter-winders are extensively automated, yet monitoring the rolls in a roll set and separation of the rolls from each other are in operation is still being performed manually. These worksteps prevent running a slitter-winder with lesser manpower. In addition to being monotonous and tedious, such operator tasks may be even hazardous if carried out counter to instructions or by negligence. Sufficient time must also be reserved for the operator's actions

to permit his checks on the roll set to be performed safely. Due to the manual separation of rolls, the operation of the slitter-winder and the roll conveyor system is slowed down.

Page 2, before line 22, the paragraph beginning with “It is an object”, insert the following title:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --.

Page 3, delete lines 8 to 12 (two paragraphs, the first paragraph beginning “More specifically,”).

Page 3, before line 23, the paragraph beginning with “In the following,”, insert the following title:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --.

Page 4, before line 7, the paragraph beginning with “Referring to FIG. 1,”, insert the following title:

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --.

Page 4, amend the paragraph beginning on line 28 as follows:

Typically, conveyor 3 is a slat conveyor. Adapted moving about driving and tail pulleys 7 is an endless conveyor link chain loop 12 comprising two parallel-running lateral chains connected to each other by slats 8, as shown in FIG. 3. In the endless conveyor chain 12, the long sides of the transverse slats 8 are shaped so that recesses 13 remain between the adjacent slats 8. The driving and tail pulleys 7 have teeth adapted to fit between the links of the lateral chains thus facilitating transmission of the driving pulley rotation into a linear motion of conveyor chain 12. As shown in FIG. 4, the slats 8 are slightly shaped in a V-angle thus making the slats 8 when running on the top leg of the conveyor chain to slant downward from the ends of the slat toward the center of the slat.